

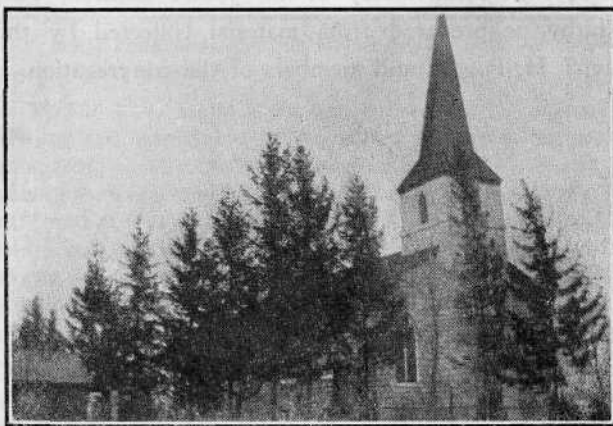
One Hundredth  
Anniversary Celebration

St. John's Church (Anglican)

Port Whitby, Ontario

1846 — July — 1946

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from one generation  
to another. Ps. 90: 1.



The Most Rev. Archbishop of Toronto and Primate  
of Canada will preach at 11 a.m., June 30, 1946.

*Price 30 Cents*

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## PREFACE

This historical sketch in connection with the Hundredth Anniversary of St. John's Church, Port Whitby, is prepared from material collected by the Rev. J. H. Pogson and members of the congregation.

## Centennial Historical Sketch

**J**ULY 5th, 1846, was a red letter day for the earnest Christians of Whitby, when the first service was held in St. John's Church. For that opening service, what a happy congregation assembled! How thankful they were for a building in which to worship God! What feelings pulsed through their bodies as they sang the hymns, read the psalms, offered their devout prayers! How raptured they were with the eloquent and earnest words of the preacher, the Rev. John Pentland. All is suggested by the very words of the text from which he preached "Mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people" Isa. 56: 7. They would return to their home full of pride for their church and with a message for the weeks to come.

### EARLIER DAYS.

There were days, yea years, before this when many people living in South Ontario were without a regular place in which to meet for Divine worship. In those days itinerent Missionaries sent out by the Missionary Societies of the Mother Church in England provided occasional services at irregular intervals. They would herald their coming and fairly large congregations for those days would assemble in the barn of some kind neighbor.

From 1832-35 Rev. Adam Eliot and a Rev. Taylor passed through this territory and ministered at occasional intervals. In March and April 1836, Rev. H. H. O'Neill visited Pickering, Whitby and district. These meetings were usually held in Kent's Hotel, Perry's Corners, (Whitby); and at Thornton's Corners, East Windsor, Wallace Corners, and other places in turn. In 1835 the first Church building in South Ontario was erected at Columbus or English Corners, as it was then known, and built of logs. This Church was named "St. Paul's." It was burned in 1837 and a frame structure erected in its place.

By the year 1838 the Parish of this district was organized under Rev. T. S. Kennedy, a missionary. He had charge of the whole of the southern area of Whitby, Clarke and Darlington, according to the records in the Archives of the Synod Office, Toronto. Later on in 1841 Rev. John Pentland, who had charge of Columbus or English Corners, where the English people first settled, extended his work to include the outposts of Skae's Corners, (Oshawa) and Windsor Bay (Port Whitby). The old Diocesan Register at the Synod Office, Toronto, and recorded in the Parish Register of All Saints' is authority for saying that Rev. John Pentland began his missionary work in Whitby on Dec. 16th, 1841.

Previous to the erection of a suitable edifice, services were held at Windsor Bay (Port Whitby) in 1841 by Rev. Pentland. The old school

kept the church going. Great credit is due to the faithful band of workers who have made it possible.

### RENOVATIONS AND ALTERATIONS.

The exterior of St. John's presents almost the same appearance as it did seventy-five years ago. But our grandfathers would scarcely recognize the interior of the church to-day, so complete has been the change.

The first organ was installed about 1855, and was a good one for those early days, costing £200. The money was raised by holding a big bazaar with the help of Oshawa people, of whom Mr. John Warren was one. Over £100 was raised at this affair, the organ purchased and installed.

Easter Day, 1905, saw the present organ installed and used for the first time. It came from a church in Peterborough. Mr. E. C. Earp was then in charge, and to him credit is due for the new organ. It replaced one that been used a great many years.

Perhaps the most thorough alteration was made in 1897, while Mr. C. W. McKim was student in charge. The old gallery was removed, the floor of the church raised about four feet. This made room for a basement 32x45 to accommodate the S.S. and other organizations. This change was made possible, after some delays, by the energetic efforts of Mr. George White, a Warden, and Messrs. Goldring Bros., who gave much of their valuable time to this work.

### THE SEATING PLAN.

The old style square upright box seats were in use until 1900. They were numbered and sittings sold to parishoners until the free pew system was adopted. There were a few large square pews, held by leading families, richly upholstered. Some of them were enclosed by curtains, other seats had doors. There were two aisles instead of one in the centre as now. These pews were rented or sold. At one time in April, 1860, the prices were increased so as to help reduce the debt on the church.

### SOME GIFTS TO ST. JOHN'S.

A number of gifts have been made to the church at different times. Perhaps the oldest gift still in use is that of the Communion Silver. The three pieces were presented by the family of Sheriff N. G. Reynolds in May, 1857, each piece having the initial of a member of the family, together with the date. This beautiful silverware has been in constant use ever since. How many souls have found spiritual refreshment at the Lord's Table as they fed on Him in their hearts by faith, partaking of the symbolical elements served from this silverware? How many lips have touched that sacred cup?

Sheriff Reynolds lived then where the O.L.C. now is, and was Warden of St. John's, and was instrumental in the erection of All Saints' Church, Whitby.

At the Easter Vestry, 1888, a vote of thanks was tendered to Dr.

F. Warren for the gift of the bell that now issues its summons weekly to the faithful worshippers to assemble at God's House. This was in memory of his father, Mr. William Warren, for a long time a valued worker for the church and Warden 1865-66, who died June 26, 1887. Dr. Warren was a good friend of the church of his boyhood days, and is remembered for his generosity in many ways.

The beautiful decorations of trees and shrubbery in the cemetery after 1898 was due to the gift of Mr. Edward Morris, of the Font-hill Nurseries. A resolution of appreciation was accorded him for this generous gift.

The Communion Table we now have was given by St. Paul's Church, Bloor Et. East, Toronto. The thanks of the Vestry was passed in May, 1905.

In June, 1906, to mark the 60th anniversary, Rev. E. A. McIntyre presented the brass desk and service book for use on the above table, and in remembrance of his ministry here as a student.

The following year saw further changes in the Chancel furniture. The W.A. placed a prayer desk there in memory of Mrs. Donally, a faithful worker in the W.A. and S.S. The "handsome" lectern, as it was described, which occupies such a prominent place in the Chancel of every Anglican Church, is the gift of All Saints' Church, Toronto.

The Pulpit was probably installed about this time, though we have not the particulars at hand. It was given by a church in Toronto. Dr. Adams was instrumental in getting this furniture.

Easter Sunday, March 27th, 1921, a handsome chest was presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lafete, for the purpose of keeping the Communion Silver, a gift greatly appreciated, and filling a long felt want.

An electric blower for the organ was donated as memorial to Mr. Chas. Goldring.

In 1927 a gift was received from the Women's Press Association of Canada of a Porch, in memory of the late Col. Geo. H. Ham. In 1927 also Mr. Daniel Birbeck made a handsome case to hold the Communion linen and vessels.

In 1930 the Howden family presented the Church with a new Pulpit in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Howden, their parents, who were faithful workers and supporters of the congregation for a great number of years.

In 1935 Mrs. John Moore, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howden, made a substantial gift also in memory of her parents to be applied to the Rectory Fund; and a new Lectern was received from the A.Y.P.A. in memory of Mr. John Goldring. Also in 1936 the A.Y.P.A., with the assistance of other organizations, arranged for the purchase of a Piano for the Sunday School.

A new Chancel floor was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Langford, in memory of Mrs. Langford's mother.

In 1945 a new auxiliary Chair and Chalice were gifts from the W.A. in memory of former members. Also in 1946 contributions from



previous anniversaries provided for a new furnace, contributing greatly to the comfort of the Church.

### MEMORIAL WINDOWS.

The beautiful memorial windows have attracted the attention of visitors to St. John's for some years past. As one enters the church his eye is arrested by the Pentland window at the north end, erected by the congregation and friends in memory of the first Rector of the church, Rev. John Pentland, during 1914. His ministry terminated in October, 1863, and he passed to his reward in May, 1871. The main figure is that of the beloved disciple St. John, the patron Saint of the church, chosen because the Rector's Christian name was John.

The north window on the east is in memory of Rev. V. P. Mayerhoffer, Chaplain of the Austrian Army in 1812. When Napoleon wanted to kill the war prisoners, Mr. Mayerhoffer made strong objection. It resulted in his break with Roman Catholicism and he became such an ardent Protestant that after landing in Quebec, where he received a cool welcome, he came up into Ontario and soon won his way to the honored position of Grand Chaplain of the Masonic and Orange Orders in 1858. An Autobiography of Rev. Mayerhoffer was written and is a book well worth reading. The window was placed in 1914 by his grandchildren.

The east centre window was the first to be placed and is divided between two families. Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Pope and their two sons, George and Robert. They lived in a small house between the Church and the G.T.R., and died in 1863 and 1870. The other half was dedicated to the memory of faithful workers for many years, Mr. and Mrs. John Woodhouse. Mr. Woodhouse was a school teacher in the public school on Dufferin St., or St. John St., as it was then called, and an earnest member of St. John's. He and Mr. John Blow were the main pillars for a long time. He was Superintendent of the Sunday School, Vestry Clerk, Church Warden and lay reader, conducting services in the absence of clergy, and is remembered by a grateful generation.

The Adams window perpetuates the memory of two who will never be forgotten by the present generation. Although they lived up town, they took a keen interest in all activities of the church. Dr. Adams was Warden in 1892-4 and again 1905-7, while Mrs. Adams was President of the W.A. for many years and greatly loved by all who knew her. The figures of the disciples are beautifully descriptive of the key word that would sum up their life, "Service." The window was dedicated Whit Sunday eve, June 8, 1919, by their son-in-law, Rev. E. A. McIntyre, as it was the birthday of Dr. Adams.

Only one member of the congregation lost his life in the first great war, and a window admired by all who see it was erected by the relatives and friends. It was the last window to be dedicated. Pte. R. J. Correll paid the supreme sacrifice when he received wounds at the battle of the Somme which resulted in his death at Birmingham hospital on September 23rd, 1916.

On the west side the south window is in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Snow who were splendid workers in their younger days. Mr. Snow was a Warden 1883-6 and in 1889. They removed to Toronto some years ago and passed away in February, 1902, and May, 1916, Mrs. Snow surviving her husband by 14 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Deverell, in whose memory the centre window is erected, belonged to the early congregation of the church. It is said, though records are not available to show it, that they were the first couple to be married in the church.

A faithful and devoted worker for a great many years was Miss Margaret Warren, daughter of Wm. Warren, mentioned elsewhere. She taught in the Sunday School and played the organ for 20 years, writing some of her own music. To her memory is dedicated the window to the north of the west side, erected by the W.A. She passed away in 1910.

The window on the west side of the south end is in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Blow and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Ham. Mrs. Ham was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blow. Mr. Blow was always very active in St. John's Church affairs and, as stated before, was one of the pillars.

### THE CEMETERY.

As already mentioned the 'acre' was given to the church by Mr. John Scadding, for a burial ground, and was consecrated by Bishop Strachan before the church, but the date is unknown at present. The first gravestone to be placed in the cemetery was to the memory of Capt. F. R. Tincombe. He was first buried on the Kingston road east of Whitby, at what is now known as Lick's cemetery. He had two sons, and two daughters. No mention is made on the stone of his wife, or them. But the second son was buried near the father. Then when the eldest son died in 1846 he was buried in the new cemetery. While it was not certain that this was the first burial, the stone erected to their memory was the first, and still stands. There is a copy made from an old register and other burials were made earlier, some of which would be in other places, but some probably in this cemetery, though it is possible for the Tincombe burial to be first, as they would delay using it till after consecration. The original registers are not available. Mrs. Tincombe had the bodies of her husband and son taken up and placed in this cemetery in 1846. The stone bears the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of F. K. Tincombe, Esq., late Capt. of His Majesty's LIV Regt., who departed this life on the 22nd day of July, 1833, aged XLI years. George A. E. Tincombe, son of the above, who died Nov. 17th, 1839, aged 17 years. Francis K. Tincombe, son of the above, who died Nov. 2nd, 1846, aged 26 years." The record of the last burial is entered in the old register as a copy.

Many of the leading citizens found their last resting place in this cemetery. Most of the Pentland family, the Warrens, John Welsh, Capt. Rowe, Wm. Smith, Sheriff N. G. Reynolds, Rev. V. P. Mayerhoffer and many others.

## THE NEW CEMETERY.

It was found necessary to extend the boundaries of the cemetery in 1918 so plans were prepared that called for the accommodation of over 1000 graves in the lot to the west of the older portion. This is a splendid location. The consecration ceremony took place on Sunday, Sept. 19th, 1920, Bishop W. D. Reeve in charge. This was a unique and impressive service. Other clergy in attendance were Rev. J. Fletcher, M.A., Rev. V. G. Lewis, M.A., Rev. J. H. Pogson being the Deacon-in-charge. The Perpetual Endowment Plan will be used in caring for the cemetery.

Of late years the cemetery has been enlarged by a gift from the late Mr. E. R. Blow and by purchase of the remaining property in that block.

## LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

Rev. J. H. Pogson, a native of Whitby, graduated from Wycliffe College in 1920, ordained Deacon May 29th, Priest May 22nd, 1921, was appointed to the charge of St. John's, June 1st, 1920. He was the first ordained minister to hold this post after the 30 year period during which students filled in. He inaugurated the plans for securing a Rectory and served faithfully until he was succeeded by the Rev. D. B. Langford.

During Rev. Mr. Langford's incumbency the Rectory was purchased and the final payment was made in 1936 by a bequest from the estate of Miss Orlena Fox.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Langford have continued serving the parish since, and are responsible for arrangements for celebrating the 100th Anniversary.

## CHURCH WARDENS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WHITBY.

From 1846 to 1860 the list is incomplete. Among those believed to have held these offices were Capt. Rowe, John Welsh, Wm. Warren, Mr. Longworth, R. Yarnold, Wm. Smith, Wm. Pardon, Capt. Thew.

- 1860-1 Sheriff N. G. Reynolds, W. H. Tremayne
- 1863 Sheriff N. G. Reynolds, Judge G. H. Dartnell
- 1863 J. Ham Perry, J. Brown
- 1864 J. Ham Perry, B. Gibson
- 1865 Wm. Warren, W. C. Num
- 1866 Wm. Warren, John Blow
- 1867-73 John Blow, John Woodhouse
- 1874 Robert Correll, Thos. Smith
- 1875 Robert Correll, C. A. Hopkins
- 1876 John Woodhouse, Thos. Smith
- 1877 Wm. Smith, Richard Snow
- 1878 Robt. Correll, John Willis
- 1879 Robert Correll, John Blow
- 1880 John Woodhouse, John Blow
- 1881 James M. Willis, Castle Fox
- 1882 Fred. Mudge, Castle Fox
- 1883 Richard Snow, James M. Willis

- 1884 Richard Snow, C. A. Hopkins
- 1885-6 Richard Snow, John Willis
- 1887-8 Wm. Till, Thos. Smith
- 1889 Richard Snow, Thos. Smith
- 1890 Thos. Y. Atkinson, C. A. Hopkins
- 1891 E. R. Blow, John H. Gale
- 1892-4 Dr. W. Adams, Geo. C. White
- 1895-8 J. D. Howden, Geo. C. White
- 1899 John J. Hobson, Chas. Goldring
- 1900 J. D. Howden, Chas. Goldring
- 1901-2 J. D. Howden, Jas. Isaac
- 1903 J. D. Howden, Arthur Southwell
- 1904 J. D. Howden, Castle Fox
- 1905-6 Dr. W. Adams, Jas. Isaac
- 1097 Dr. W. Adams, R. J. Goldring
- 1908-9 Dr. W. Adams, John Draper
- 1910 E. R. Blow, John Draper
- 1911-15 E. R. Blow, T. Y. Atkinson
- 1916-17 Jas. Isaac, R. Golding
- 1918-20 E. R. Blow, W. D. Watson
- 1921 S. J. Spall, E. R. Blow
- 1922 S. J. Spall, C. H. Wilson
- 1923-27 C. H. Wilson, E. R. Blow
- 1928-29 M. Kerr, W. Watson
- 1930 J. E. Martin, L. Hoad
- 1931 Norman Pindar, L. Hoad
- 1932 T. Deane, N. Pindar
- 1933-34 T. Deane, M. Kerr
- 1935-45 T. Deane, J. E. Martin
- 1946 Wm. A. Savage, J. E. Martin

## W. A. HISTORY.

St. John's Woman's Auxiliary was organized in October, 1895, with a membership of 26. The following officers were elected: President, Miss M. J. Smith; First Vice-President, Mrs. John Howden; Second Vice-President, Mrs. W. Adams; Recording Secretary, Miss Arnold; Corresponding Secretary, Miss A. Howden; Treasurer, Miss Lucy Blow.

This first meeting was held in the Public School, those following in the basement of the house occupied by the Gale family, whose generous hospitality was enjoyed until the present Sunday School room was ready for use.

The pledges were two: one for the foreign field, the other for the salary of the matron at the Blackfoot Home.

The Dorcas Department each year supplied a general bale of quilts, clothing and rag carpets, etc., for Canadian Missions, and also made donations to the maintenance of the church.

The Junior W.A. was organized in 1897 with Mrs. D. Gale as superintendent, and is still in existence under the leadership of Mrs. Langford.



OSHAWA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REFERENCE





house that stood just to the east of the cemetery was the scene of the earliest gatherings for public worship in these parts. After 1844 the Methodists also used the school, but had no sympathy for Anglicans, and monopolized the school on Saturday and Sunday for their own purposes. As a result of this, finding the school in use one Sunday, John Welsh invited the crowd to his residence, a handsome house on Charles St. south. Here the Anglicans worshipped until the new church was ready for use. The years intervening between that and 1846 must have been filled with moments of thought as to the erecting of a suitable building for worship in Whitby. St. John's Church was the result, and by July, 1846, was ready for services, though not completed for some two or three years.

#### THE SITE OF ST. JOHN'S.

According to the official documents in the Registry Office, May 2nd, 1848, the site was presented by Mr. John Scadding, a Toronto gentleman. He died without having properly deeded the property, and so his sons, Charles and Rev. Dr. Henry J. Scadding, one time Rector of Holy Trinity, proceeded to carry out the intentions of their father. They duly conveyed the property to the first Bishop of Toronto, Bishop Strachan, and his successors forever "for the use of a Church of the United Church of England and Ireland *now erected* upon the said parcel of land and for a burial ground in connexion therewith." This tract is described as one acre, part of south part of lot 26, three chains 17L from S. W. angle; thence 74 degrees, 3 chains, 17L.

#### THE BUILDING STONE. WHENCE CAME IT?

The stone structure of St. John's is a landmark for miles around, and arrests the eye of the traveller along the C.N. Ry. Many wonder, no doubt, how this church came to be built of stone. And thereby hangs a tale. Most people know that the stone was quarried at Kingston, Ont. The prisoners of the Provincial Penitentiary, to pass the time away (?) cut the stone, which was disposed of for building purposes throughout the province.

Whitby Harbour, or rather Windsor Bay, as it was then known, was a mecca for sailing vessels in the '40s, when grain and salt was shipped from this port. Those were the days when teams by the score would be lined up from the Base Line awaiting their turn to be unloaded. They came in from the surrounding country along the old "Plank Road" that was laid and owned, as far back as Port Perry, by Capt. Rowe and his partners. On this road were toll gates at several points.

Capt. Jas. Rowe was a well-to-do farmer living at Shoal Point, to the west of Whitby. He, with Jas. Cotton and others, were partners and owned the harbour. He built two schooners, at least, that caused some amusement among skilled sailors on the lake. A name to be associated with that of Capt. Rowe in some enterprises, is that of John Welsh, who owned the only store for miles around. Capt. Rowe built two schooners, naming the first after John Welsh. They got together and made a bargain. Capt. Rowe wanted to ship grain to Kingston,

and Mr. Welsh wanted building stone for his store. This store stood on Brock Street S., just north of Front Street, and has long since been demolished. The vessel would require ballast on the return journey and the stone served a double purpose. As the freight rates on such ballast would be cheap, we find a number of buildings erected in this vicinity of Kingston stone.

These men were ardent churchmen, and they conceived the idea of bringing enough stone to build a church. This they did and gave it free for this purpose, so it is said. Just how long it would take them in their frail craft to bring so much stone can only be conjectured. It was some little time after the stone arrived before actual work commenced, as builders were scarce.

#### THE BUILDING OF ST. JOHN'S.

St. John's church was designed by the late Wm. Smith, who prepared all plans in connection with its erection. He seems to have had personal supervision of the work. The two master carpenters who did most of that class of work were Archie Hamilton and Christopher McDermont. The mason work was done by a Mr. Sterling, of Greenwood. It is said that Mr. Thos. Deverell Sr., learned his trade at this time and was engaged in the work. The work required a good deal of time as it was difficult to get some of the materials necessary. Prominent among the workers interested in the building of this church besides those mentioned were Mr. Wm. Warren, Mr. Longworth, Mr. Ezra Annis, Wm. Pardon, Mr. R. Yarnold, Capt. Thew, while many names seem to be lost track of. The principals, however, were Capt. Jas. Rowe, John Welsh, and Wm. Smith, who were wealthy and made themselves responsible for the erection of the church. To them we owe our thanks for this place of worship.

#### THE OPENING SERVICE.

It is difficult for the present generation to throw themselves back 100 years and appreciate what that service meant to them. After worshipping under adverse circumstances for at least five years they would be thankful for a suitable edifice. It was a great day for the Church of England. It was a great day for the people. It was a day long to be remembered by the preacher and the people.

There was only the one service in the morning, as Mr. Pentland had two other appointments. The church was not nearly completed. The floor was just rough boards and there were no seats! Fancy that! Did the people stand? No, they were seated on rough planks, such as were used on the "Plank Road" as Brock St. was then known, with no backs to the seats.

The church was crowded to the doors for the occasion, many of whom were regular worshippers. After that the church was well attended every Sunday. Mrs. Lugton was a member of the original choir as Miss Bate. There was no organ, the music being supplied by four instruments. The trainer was Mr. Henry Bate, a choirleader with experience in England. He played the violin, Mr. Watts the base viol,

Mr. Watcher the flute. The choir trained faithfully for weeks in the old schoolhouse in preparation for the opening. Other members of that choir were Abraham Byran, Jas. Beswick, Wm. Thew, Robert E. Perry, John H. Perry, Henry Whitley, John W. Zwicky, Charlotte Jeffrey, Miss Beecham, Miss Watts, Mrs. Tincombe, and others whose names are written in records not available. There was no dearth of men in those days. Would we could return to such a choir.

Some other families at that service would be the Warrens, Rows, Welchs, Wm. Smith's, Jos. Cotton, Wm. Wilson (who was the first sexton), and father of Mr. J. W. Wilson, of Port Whitby.

While the date of opening is a matter of debate with some, there seems to be satisfactory evidence that 1846 was the year, and July 5th is fixed as the day. The parish register of All Saints' has an entry made by Rev. J. D. Cayley, who would take pains to see that such an entry was correct: "St. John's Church, Windsor Bay, was opened for Divine service on Sunday, July 5th, 1846."

#### REV. JOHN PENTLAND.

The first minister to officiate at St. John's was the Rev. John Pentland, an Irishman by birth, a soldier by experience, and a minister by choice. He was the third son of George Pentland, Esq., of Granby Row, Rutland Square, Dublin. There he was born in the year 1804, and baptized at St. Mary's, the parish church. His early education was received at Kilkenny, Ireland, though information is rather uncertain. His theological training was received at Trinity College, Dublin and Cambridge, England. On September 9th, 1824, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieut. in His Majesty's Horse Guard, 21st Regiment. Later he was promoted to the rank of captain, and travelled with the army through France, Spain and Italy. Many an interesting tale could be recounted by Mr. Pentland.

After a time the family removed to Black Hall, Drogheda, and became acquainted with the Montgomery family. Capt. John Pentland met Miss Frances Montgomery at an officers' ball in Dublin, Sept., 1830, and they fell in love with one another and were married in April of the following year at St. John's Church, Kilkenny.

He entered the ministry, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Rev. John Pentland, who died at Ardberaccan, County Meath, about 1730. Mr. Pentland ministered in Wales, France and Ireland before migrating to Canada.

He came to Canada about 1835, possibly earlier, as he was the first minister of St. Paul's Church, Columbus, built that year, though some claim he came about 1841. He came as a missionary to do pioneer work in the new country. His charge embraced Columbus, Oshawa, Whitby and the surrounding districts; or, as he said, his parish extended to the shores of Hudson Bay. At different times he lived in Oshawa, Whitby, back again to Oshawa, till 1863. What a long drive that would make, and over such roads! They were not the good roads we now have, not by any means. The story is told by an elderly

member of the church of one Sunday morning, back in '59, late in the spring at that, when they waited over an hour for the preacher, but he came not. They learned later that it was a case of "stuck in the mud," that caused his absence. The mode of travel was mostly horse-back, along a path or trail through the woods, as the roads were very rough.

There are a number of people who remember Mr. Pentland, and they speak of him in the highest terms. They describe him as a kindly gentleman, a lover of children, an earnest Christian, a splendid preacher, and the best of readers. Some of his admirers say they have never heard any one read the burial service like Mr. Pentland. He was noted for his bedside visitation, and a visit was looked forward to by the patient, to whom he was most kind. A visit from Rev. John Pentland invariably meant that a soul was prepared to meet his Maker.

His family life was a happy one, as testified by his daughter, Mrs. James Skinner, who recalls her home life with pleasant memories. They lived comfortably, and possessed comforts towards the last. In these busy days people say there isn't time for Family Prayers, but the Pentland family gathered for worship daily at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Would that families had followed, even to now, the splendid example of their minister. In those days it was a custom observed by practically every church family.

On Sunday, October 11th, 1863, the congregation assembled as usual for worship, and were most surprised to hear Mr. Pentland read out his resignation. No one had been consulted, and no one was more surprised than his daughter, who presided at the organ. After many years of faithful service he removed to Prince Albert, where he continued to preach for a while. His health failing him he returned to Whitby and lived retired until his death on May 18th, 1871, at the age of 67. While young in point of years, he was an aged man. His vitality was worn by years of strenuous service for the Master and the church he dearly loved.

#### SUBSEQUENT MINISTERS.

Rev. J. D'Arcy Cayley assumed the charge of St. John's on Nov. 8th, 1863, and remained until the fall of 1866, when All Saints' Whitby, was opened. This latter at once became the stronger congregation and demanded two services which Mr. Cayley gave them. St. John's was given an afternoon service, which did not prove any too acceptable to the people. In the spring of '67 they engaged Mr. C. Garnett Jones as the result of a resolution passed May 16, and he was ordained that year and officiated until Dec. 1868, when he resigned to visit England. After that the ministry was for short periods, for a time.

1867-70, Rev. James Mockridge.  
1871, Mr. John Woodhouse, (lay reader).  
1872-3, Rev. James Bevan, D.D.  
1873-6, Rev. C. R. Bell.  
1876-9, Rev. Johnston Vicars.  
1880-9, Rev. W. S. Westney.  
1920-4, Rev. J. H. Pogson.  
1924 to date, Rev. D. B. Langford.



During the incumbency of Mr. Bell, Brooklin was attached to Port Whitby, a morning service only being held at St. John's. Dr. Bevan was a very old man, and infirm. Often in severe weather services would be held at his home on Brock St. Another old gentleman was Rev. Vicars, who lived in Pickering and held one service there and one in Port Whitby. His resignation on April 15, 1879, was due to his advanced years.

#### THE CATASTROPHE OF 1872.

On the morning of May 27th, 1872, during a terrific storm, the church was struck by lightning and badly damaged. The spire was first struck and utterly shattered, the gallery torn, plaster ripped off, floor broken up, seats and organ damaged. The current ran along the old stove pipes and out the north wall several places and along the grass for 15 feet. It was at this time that the east wall was greatly weakened. This wall was repaired in 1913 at a cost of about \$1100.

An amusing thing was disclosed at the time, and a deep mystery for years was solved. It seems that some time earlier, someone had given an article of decoration that was considered offensive to "low" church people. These were the days of warm controversy. So somebody apparently conceived the brilliant idea of confiscating the "horrid" article and thrusting it between the crevices of the wall. The sudden and mysterious disappearance of this article was the subject of conversation in the parish. No one knew when, or how, or who, or where, but all was cleared up but the who of it, when the broken wall disclosed the article. Again it disappeared just as mysteriously as before, and has not since been heard of. It has been suggested that perhaps the old box stove could tell the rest of the story.

Dr. James Bevan was the clergyman in charge at the time. He was a superannuated professor of King's College, Toronto, being over seventy years of age at the time. He was the first Prolocutor of the Provincial Synod, and attended the meeting of that body in 1872. The Dr., despite his advanced years, set to work at once to collect money for the repair of the church. He made his appeal to friends in Whitby, Toronto, Hamilton and England, meeting with splendid success and collecting about \$700. The plastering, glazing, carpenter work, shingling of the roof and repairs to organ were all done at a cost of \$296.00. It was two years later (1874) when the contract for the new spire was let to Mr. Wm. Barnes for \$447, though the cost reached \$534, which, in due time, was paid off.

#### REV. W. S. WESTNEY, M.A., B.D.

Was a young man in his prime during the successful years of his incumbency at St. John's. He lived in Pickering most of the time and held a morning service here. He also held an afternoon service at a point north of Pickering, Brougham and Greenwood. Mr. Westney tells

of an amusing experience at Brougham one day. He had invited a Salvationist to attend his services, and to his surprise, he came, and discomfort as it turned out to be, but to the great amusement of the congregation. Being rather hard of hearing, he came right up to the front seat and carried a huge horn which he held to his ear and directly in front of the preacher, that he might hear the sermon. It was so big that Mr. Westney could scarcely see the congregation.

Our modern A.Y.P.A. could look back upon this period and learn a few lessons as to how our parents got up concerts to raise money and incidentally have social gatherings. Along about 1881-82 there existed a hustling organization known as the "Philermonic" Dramatic Society of Port Whitby. Our present generation boast of the plays put on in recent years, but these people put on a concert after two weeks' practice that netted \$70.00. They went to Pickering and met with such success that they were called upon to repeat it. Their object was to raise money to help out the minister's salary. In the play presented, Mrs. James Smith of Whitby, was the "star actress." Mr. Baillie Snow, the Dutchman, and E. R. Blow was just his natural self as an Irishman. Mr. J. M. Willis also took a leading part. The society came to grief later on when the vestry went on record as favoring adopting the principle of maintaining the church by freewill offerings.

#### STUDENT REGIME 1889-1919.

After Rev. Westney's resignation taking effect on April 7, 1889, the congregation felt unable to support an ordained minister and so applied to Wycliffe College for a student. No one was available for six weeks, so there were no Easter services that year. The following students then ministered in turn:

1889—Mr. R. A. Sims	1907—Mr. C. E. Snowden
1890—Mr. N. I. Perry	1908—Mr. G. R. Bracken
1891—Mr. John Byran	1909—Mr. G. F. Saywell
1892—Mr. S. H. Gould	1910—Mr. P. G. Powell
1893-4—Mr. H. R. A. O'Malley	1911—Mr. W. A. Earp.
1895—Mr. W. J. Southam	1912—Mr. T. J. Dew
1896-7—Mr. C. W. McKim	1913-14—Mr. F. Glover
1898—Mr. H. L. Roy	1915—Mr. T. W. Scott
1899-1900—Mr. W. Simpson	1916—Mr. A. C. McCollum
1901-2—Mr. W. H. Vance	1917—Mr. V. G. Lewis
1903—Mr. E. A. McIntyre	1918—Mr. C. W. Lea
1904-5—Mr. E. C. Earp.	1919—Mr. A. F. Traverse
1906—Mr. E. C. Burch	

Among the above will be noticed many good men who are now holding prominent positions in the church. Too much cannot be said for the splendid work done by Wycliffe students in this parish. Their time was limited to the few summer months of May or June to the end of September, when they resumed their college studies. During the winter the congregation was served by the students coming for the week end in their turn. For 30 years the congregation held together nobly and



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Life members of St. John's are Miss M. J. Smith, Mrs. W. Adams, Miss F. Woodhouse, Miss M. Fox, Mrs. Jno. Moore, Mrs. R. Correll, Mrs. D. B. Langford and Miss Margaret E. Sleep.

On October 25th, 1945, a special meeting was held when the Fiftieth Anniversary was celebrated and to dedicate a chancel chair and chalice in memory of the members of the past fifty years. The church was filled to capacity for the service, presided over by Rev. Derwyn T. Owen, Archbishop of Toronto and Primate of All Canada. Assisting at the service were Rural Dean Rev. D. M. Rose of St. George's Church, Oshawa; Rev. Gordon Channen, All Saints', Whitby, and Rev. D. B. Langford. The offering at this service was donated to the united thankoffering for the training and equipping of missionaries. Following the service a reception was held in the Sunday School hall. On the platform, in addition to the clergy were Mrs. Derwyn T. Owen, Mrs. D. B. Langford, and three charter members, Mrs. J. J. Moore, Mrs. E. A. McIntyre, and Miss M. E. Sleep.

Miss Sleep gave a history of the Woman's Auxiliary during the past fifty years. After a few words of welcome by the Rector the meeting was put in charge of Mrs. Langford, who has been President for the past twenty years.

Mrs. Owen, Honorary President of the Diocesan W.A., took charge of the service during which Miss Margaret E. Sleep was made a Life Member. Mrs. E. R. Blow, Vice-President, pinned her mother's pin on the new life member and also presented her with a framed certificate of membership.

Miss F. C. Kingstone, Diocesan Treasurer, and Mrs. S. S. Greville, Diocesan Sec.-Treas., brought greetings, also Rev. C. G. Park of Whitby United Church. The Woman's Auxiliary of All Saints', Whitby, were present, also representatives of the Presbyterian and Baptist Churches, Whitby.

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The congregation owe a debt of gratitude for the musical portion of the services which have been very ably handled over a number of years by the following:

Mrs. Willis	Mrs. Wm. Woodhouse
Miss Warren	Miss Cammidge
Miss F. E. Woodhouse	Mrs. B. D. Savage, A.T.C.M.
Mr. Mudge	Mr. A. J. Agg

and

Mr. Robin Nicholson

who also assisted on a great many occasions.